## SENATE RESOLUTION No. 65

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

### 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 3, 2022

Sponsored by: Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

#### **SYNOPSIS**

Memorializes Congress to increase funding for Section 8 housing vouchers and revise program requirements to enhance award of vouchers.

#### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 A SENATE RESOLUTION memorializing Congress to increase

2	funding for Section 8 housing vouchers and to revise program
3	criteria to allow for greater utilization of the program.
4	
5	WHEREAS, Helping the homeless, the disabled, the working poor
6	and former welfare recipients find housing is a priority of the
7	State and the federal governments; and
8	WHEREAS, The provision of affordable housing is a critical element
9	in the effort to help people out of poverty; and
10	WHEREAS, The Section 8 housing voucher program is the federal
11	government's major program for assisting very low-income
12	families, the elderly and the disabled to rent decent, safe, and
13	sanitary housing in the private market; and
14	WHEREAS, The need for Section 8 vouchers is greater than the
15	supply, leaving thousands of New Jersey residents holding a
16	limited number of places on waiting lists for years and thousands
17	more unable even to obtain a place on a waiting list; and
18	WHEREAS, A significant percentage of New Jersey residents who
19	become eligible for vouchers are unable to utilize them prior to
20	their expiration due to restrictive program limitations; now,
21	therefore,
22	
23	<b>BE IT RESOLVED</b> by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:
24	
25	1. The Senate respectfully memorializes the Congress of the
26	United States to enact and the President to sign legislation:
27	a. increasing the funding of the Section 8 housing voucher
28	program;
29	b. providing housing authorities with discretion to exceed fair
30	market rents in the basic range by at least 20% rather than the 10%
31	that is allowed under current regulations;
32	c. providing housing authorities with greater discretion to
33	exceed current requirements concerning the percentage of family
34	income that may be allocated towards the payment of rent; and
35	d. authorizing housing authorities to utilize federal funding for
36	the preliminary costs necessary to enroll new voucher recipients.
37	
38	2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
39	shall be transmitted by the Secretary of State to the Governor of the
40	State of New Jersey.
41	
42	
43	STATEMENT
44	
45	This resolution would memorialize Congress to enact and the
46	President to sign legislation to:
47	• increase the funding for the Section 8 housing voucher
48	program;

#### **SR65** TURNER

3

1	•	provide housing authorities with discretion to exceed fair
2		market rents in the basic range by at least 20% rather than
3		the 10% that is allowed under current regulations;

4

5

6 7

8

9 10

- provide housing authorities with greater discretion to exceed current requirements concerning the percentage of family income that may be allocated towards the payment of rent; and
- authorize housing authorities to utilize federal funding for the preliminary costs necessary to enroll new voucher recipients.